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# San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **CITY ATTORNEY GIVEN GREEN LIGHT TO NEGOTIATE WITH SEC**

**San Diego, CA:** The San Diego City Council today gave the go-ahead to City Attorney Michael Aguirre to begin negotiations with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) that could bring to a close the federal agency's 19-month-long investigation of the City's securities disclosure practices. The Council also authorized the City's outside counsel, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, to work with the City Attorney in negotiating with the SEC. The Council vote was unanimous.

"I appreciate the fact that the Deputy Mayor and City Council have recognized the importance of taking this essential step toward resolving the City's issues with the SEC," said City Attorney Aguirre. "I intend to base our discussions on the draft agreement that I released to the public last week."

In his capacity as the City's chief legal advisor, Aguirre first presented the draft agreement to the City Council for consideration in closed session. Last week when he released the document to the public, he called on the Mayor and City Council to discuss the matter in open session. In response to his request, Deputy Mayor Toni Atkins called today's special meeting.

The draft agreement, which separates the City from the issue of any alleged wrong-doing by City officials, recognizes remedial steps that the City has taken and calls for additional reforms to be supervised by the SEC. If the SEC accepts the City Attorney's proposal, the City Council must still approve the settlement.

The City Attorney's proposal can be accessed on the City Attorney's website at [www.sandiegocityattorney.org](http://www.sandiegocityattorney.org).

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